

### Black and White Mannikins *Lonchura bicolor* eating algae

While at the Kakamega Forest, Western Province, Kenya, I observed an unusual feeding behaviour for Black and White Mannikins *Lonchura bicolor*. These observations were made on 16 December 1987 along a tributary of the Lugusida River (0°15N, 34°53E) where it flows near the edge of the forest and in an area where cattle frequently cross. Consequently, the area is very muddy and the creek forms a number of small stagnant pools in which filamentous green algae seem to thrive. A group of four adult mannikins was spotted in creepers growing up a tree when, one by one, they flew down to the ground at the edge of the creek and started feeding on the algae. It was obvious that they were feeding rather than drinking since they would periodically lift their heads and showed that they had strands of the algae hanging from their bills, which they proceeded to ingest. This behaviour continued for about two minutes until suddenly, they all flew off. I know of no other reports of algae-feeding by a granivorous bird.

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## 20TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS 1990

### Final Notice

The congress will take place in Christchurch, New Zealand, on 2–9 December 1990. The second and final circular, registration papers and forms for submitting papers may be obtained from the Secretary General, Dr Ben D. Bell, 20th IOC, School of Biological Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington. P.O. Box 600, Wellington, New Zealand (Telex NZ30882 VUWLB; Fax: NZ 64-4-712070).

### CORRECTIONS

**The birds of Africa.** Volume III review, *Scopus* 12: 104.

The comments regarding the kingfisher recoveries need correcting. The book's statement regarding the Pied Kingfisher recovery to Uganda is quite correct; I apologize for implying that it was not. The mention (p. 269) of the Chestnut-bellied Kingfisher recoveries, however, is not correct: the two recoveries of Ethiopian-ringed birds were both to Kenya—to near Kisumu (963 km) and near Mombasa (c. 1747 km), not to Uganda and Kenya.

*Ed.*

**East African Bird Report 1987,** *Scopus* 11: 106.

The Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* was included under the Afrotropical species heading by mistake; it should, of course, have been listed in the Palearctic section.

*Ed.*